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Prof Fitch

HAMILTON LIFE.

The Weekly Student Publication of Hamilton College.

VOL. XIV. CLINTON, N. Y., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1911. No. 12.

NOVEMBER LIT. CRITIQUE.

Former Editor Compares the Lit. of Today With That of the Middle 90's. Thompson's Work Praised.

I have accepted the task of reviewing the November Lit. reluctantly; because, having been "on" Lit., and knowing well the difficulties of publishing a good magazine, I feel any adverse criticism is most ungracious. It is so hard to secure contributions, to get a fellow really to finish up something. And, when you come down to the plain truth, there are rather few among two hundred who can write stuff fit to print.

"Dan" Webster, '97, has told in the Saturday Evening Post for November 11th, how he was the only "literary" student of his time and wrote nearly all of the Hamiltonian and of Lit. Writing incognito, he has felt justified in sacrificing strict fact to his "story," but he is substantially correct after all, though it might be said some of us were kept from writing not so much by lack of ambition as by discouragement in the presence of Webster's easy art. My observation of the Lit. for the past three or four years has convinced me that there are now more men in College who are really trying to write and can write than at any period since I have known the place—now eighteen years. I note with satisfaction that this Lit. is not a one man publication.

In taking up this task I asked myself what should be expected from the Lit., not as regards quality, but as regards the field to be covered. First, it is presumed to be a literary magazine. Secondly, Lit. is, by tradition, expected to give the news and to interpret student opinion. Thirdly, it is the Alumni organ. This is a program almost impossible to carry out in one small magazine.

There was a time when Lit. was largely filled with prize essays and orations, heavy but rather imposing, and a decidedly better publication than that of the subsequent period when the prize work was entirely omitted. At present the proportion seems fairly satisfactory; but

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ALUMNI COUNCIL TO ORGANIZE

PLANS STILL UNCERTAIN.

Probably Little Will be Done but to Elect Officers and to Attend to the Details of Organization.

The first regular meeting of the Alumni Council of Hamilton College will be held at Bagg's Hotel, Utica, on the afternoon of December 30, when the Council will officially come together for the first time to elect its officers and to arrange administrative and regulative detail.

Just what definite action will be taken regarding the needs and problems of the College is more or less a surmise. It is known on the authority of one of the leading members of the Council that the construction of a new running track or the rebuilding of the present track will be considered. Following this line of investigation the Council will also discuss the possibility of remodelling the present Gymnasium, it being known that the Council as a whole does not favor the construction of an entirely new building.

The Alumni have evinced particular interest in the coming meeting on account of any action which the body may take as regards the Hamilton Commission on Curriculum and Entrance Requirements. A number of the Council have been active in the work of creating sentiment for "more men"; whether they will offer resolutions in commendation of the stand taken by the Alumni Commission will be awaited with considerable interest.

The Graduate Council, which was organized by the general body of Alumni last June, consists of 24 members with equal representation for each of the "crowds." The Council has the privilege of inquiry and full advisory powers and its special committees may act in conjunction with similar committees from the Board of Trustees.

The interest and occupations of the Alumni composing the Council are varied. S. A. Sherwin, '67, is engaged in the insurance business at Batavia, T. F. Collier, '94, George P. Bristol, '76, E. L. Stevens, '90, and

ONLY JUNIORS IN TRIALS.

Senior Team Selected by Process of Elimination.

Last Saturday the Debate Council was to hear the candidates for the Senior and Junior debate teams, but as the number of Seniors originally chosen had dwindled to five, only Juniors debated. The appearances were fair, only fair, for the men, somewhat confused by the indefiniteness of the question, failed to clash decisively and neglected to hammer on the vital points. The men showed much promise, however, and under the drill of the Council will undoubtedly do much better in the Interclass Debate.

The Juniors selected by the Council to compose the team are Wheelock, Simonds, Groves, Peck and Ingersoll as alternate. The Senior debaters are Bedenkapp, Boone, DuBois, Warren and Plant, the alternate to be chosen from this number.

CHESS MATCH THURSDAY NIGHT.

There will be a chess match at the Wheeler School next Thursday evening between a team representing the College and one made up of Clinton men. Those who will play for the College are: Adams, Blackmar, Dayton and DuBourdieu; for Clinton G. W. Browning, Charles Stratton, Fran' Watson and Professor Wheeler. Anyone interested is invited.

PROM. MUSIC BY ZITA.

The Junior Prom. Committee met at the Alpha Delta Phi Hall on Sunday. What the committee desires above all in the general scheme of the affair is originality and innovation, and toward that end all plans are being made. And something may be expected, although nothing is being disclosed. Zita is to furnish the music, which precludes any failure in that respect.

—The Freshmen have adopted red and grey as their class colors.

G. H. Naylor, '02, are teaching at Brown University, New York City and Ossining respectively; H. R. Barrows, '06, and A. D. Scovel, '96, are in the employ of the Bell Telephone Co., while L. G. Colson, '87, is a pastor at New York Mills. The list of lawyers is a long one and includes F. P. Warfield, '96, G. H. Minor, '90, H. M. Love, '83, of New York, W. I. Lee, '99, of Brooklyn, E. J. Wager, '85, and S. A. Miller, '99, of Utica, E. C. Wright, '71, of Syracuse, R. C. S. Drummond, '01, of Auburn, and C. G. Signor, '02, of Albion. S. L. Butler, '98, and J. L. Strickland, '04, are engaged in business at Utica and Carthage respectively, while G. M. Weaver, '91, is a manufacturer at Utica. C. N. Kendall, '82, is the Commissioner of Instruction at Trenton, N. J., J. D. Cary, '84, is proprietor of the Cary Cottages at Richfield Springs, S. B. Blakely, '03, is practicing medicine in New York City, while H. K. Webster, '97, at Evanston, Ill., still continues to please the public with his writing.

CORNELL WINS AT CHESS.

Last Monday evening at Ithaca, New York, the Chess Team went down to defeat by a score of 8 to 0. All the Hamilton men played strong games, and the victory for Cornell was not as easy as the score indicates. Cornell has an unusually strong team and has defeated Pennsylvania and Brown already this season.

Although no definite answer has been received from the College of the City of New York, a match is practically assured with that institution.

Adams, '12, DuBourdieu, '12, and Clapp, '13, composed the Team at Ithaca.

The University of Iowa is to have a "Student Union" building. The funds have been received from the State Board of Education. The main features are a large dining room, reading and writing rooms and places where the men can spend their time. The purpose is to make a higher quality in student citizenship and to preserve the traditions of personal culture inherited from the English universities.

A backwoods ball was recently given by the undergraduates of the University of California. The guests came in overalls and other appropriate toggery. Music and refreshments of a "husky" nature helped the affair along toward making it a success.

SMALLER ADVISORY BOARD

Ten Year Association Given Up, but Suggestion is Made That Alumni be Given Fair Representation.

A meeting of the Governing Board of the Ten Year Athletic Association was held at the D. K. E. house on Saturday night. The meeting was called to consider the relation of the Ten Year Association to the General Athletic Association. The Ten Year Association had intended, because the Alumni composing it had desired control of the funds they contributed, to maintain an independent existence. The General Athletic Association wished to combine, accepting the Ten Year Association's idea of collecting a uniform annual tax from the younger Alumni.

In the course of a discussion a new plan was presented which won unanimous approval. This plan contemplates a radical change, the destruction of the present Advisory Board, and the substitution of a Board of nine members. Of these nine, three are to be Alumni, three members of the Faculty, and three undergraduates. The undergraduates are to be elected at the end of first term Junior to serve for a year, and their election shall be upon general fitness, regardless of any positions they may or may not hold. They shall be nominated by voice and voted upon in College Meeting. The Faculty members shall likewise be elected by the student body. The six members so elected shall choose from the Alumni of the vicinity who would be able to attend all meetings, the three Alumni members. All members shall serve for a year, from February to February.

This Board shall have much the same powers and duties as the present large, unwieldy and unrepresentative Advisory Board. It would approve schedules, award "H's", make nominations for assistant managerships, collect and disburse funds. The allotment of funds would be after presentation of a budget, and after a hearing by the manager of each activity asking for money.

This Board would be small enough to be easily handled, representative enough to suit all factions, judicial enough to do business fairly.

The plan met the approval of the meeting which recommended that it be immediately considered by the Advisory Board and by the student body. Until this recommendation is acted upon the Ten Year Association will proceed no further, as the new plan would obviate the necessity of its existence.

These Alumni were at the meeting Saturday night: Hayes, '05, Barrows, and Drummond, '06, Williams, '08, E. H. Jones, S. W. Jones, Martin and Sidle, '11.

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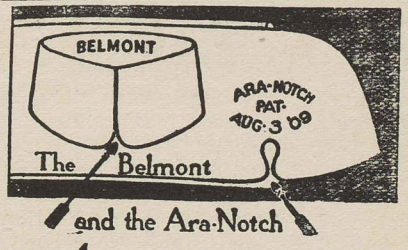

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STAFF OF LIFE:

Editorial.

ROBERT W. DRUMMOND, '12, Editor-in-Chief, D. K. E. House.

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R. A. PORTER, '13,
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D. E. STONE, '13, Local Editor.

R. P. BAGG, '12, Business Manager, Sigma Phi Place.

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Reportorial.

N. J. MARSH, JR., '14,
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EDITORIAL.

Prof. Ibbotson wishes all books to be returned to the Library before Thursday.

* * *

As a payment must be made immediately to the publishers of the Press Club Calendar, those who desire copies are requested to buy them before the Holidays.

* * *

Senior Debate Squabble.

The Senior Debate Team is justified in its protest. The Class might have relieved the members of the team of the embarrassing duty now theirs. That the matter was considered only perfunctorily is due to the usual foolishness of holding a meeting to have an important question decided directly before lunch. Still the Class did not realize how embarrassing a situation was being created, nor did any member of the team object in the meeting to the course taken. Life suggests that another meeting be called to relieve the debaters of the responsibility now resting on them.

Considerable unfavorable criticism has been directed against the five men who were elected by the Class to the privilege of competing for a place on the team but who dropped out of the contest. Their action was not caused by a lack of class-spirit, but by a realization of their inferiority in debating.

COLLEGE Y. M. C. A. CONVENTION

An Appeal is Made for More College-Trained Missionaries.

The largest convention in the history of the Student Volunteer movement was held at Auburn December 8-10. About 250 college students representing 25 different institutions attended. Hamilton's representation aug mented by the addition of "Spence," "Elder" Robinson and "Colse" numbered an even twenty, the third largest delegation present.

This is the great era of awakening. China, Persia, Turkey, even India, are being swayed by great nationalistic influences. Their dead past is being rapidly obliterated and they are groping around for new ideals of life. Conditions are critical. College men and women—the recognized leaders of the near future—must do their share in leading these great peoples to a proper conception of their duties toward each other and their responsibilities in the great world movements.

The facts present themselves squarely. Should a man compete for existence in this country at the expense of the displacement of some other man, or should he invest his life where it will count most. Here is a chance to invest a life where it will bring the greatest returns in the coinage of the Kingdom of God. Such was the thought impressed upon the minds of the students present.

Next year's convention will be held in Ithaca under the auspices of Cornell University. Barnes, '14, was elected 1st vice-president of the Association.

"The Changing Chinese," by Ross, is a timely study of conditions in the Celestian Empire. "The Great Divide," a play that has had an unusually successful run all over the United States, and "The Faith Healer," another play of Moody's not so well known, are among the recent acquisitions at the Library.

—Brandt, '04, and Scott, '05, were visitors on the Hill over Sunday.

1915 HOLDS EARLY BANQUET.

All but Three Get Safely to Banquet—Close Pursuit by Sophs.

The Freshmen sprang a surprise and incidentally established a new College record Wednesday afternoon when they eluded the clutches of the startled Sophomores and left the Hill for what is commonly acknowledged to be the earliest class banquet in the history of Hamilton .

At the close of Wednesday Chapel a meeting of the Class of 1915 was announced. This being in accordance with the usual order of things, no suspicion was excited until a number of the class were seen throwing out a picket line which extended from the Chapel to the Deke road and which caused startled spectators to believe that a second San Juan was to be re-enacted. The Sophomores followed in close pursuit. On the Deke road rigs were waiting and the Freshmen tumbling pell-mell into these were soon on their way to Clark Mills. "My kingdom for a benzine buzz-wagon," panted "Wily" Weaver, as he led the pursuit. "Five dollars for a dirt wagon," shouted the more practical Ogilvie, and in a minute a startled farmer found himself Dan-Patching it for Clark Mills at a 2:15 pace.

At the Mills a running row took place in which '14 managed to capture three of the Freshmen. The remainder of the class boarded the special car and were quickly on their way to Syracuse.

The banquet was held at 5 o'clock at The Onondaga. Following an elaborate menu, President LaForce, acting as toastmaster, called on F. P. Lee for his version of "Athletics." Lockwood warned his classmates of the "Immorality of the Age," while Helman made the ears of the "Faculty" tingle. "1915" was a favorite subject, as was evidenced by the fact that Turnbull spoke of its "Statistics," Hulburt of its "Future," and Hudson, sixty-five miles away demonstrated its ability as a "Class" by the absent treatment. The time-honored toast of "Alma Mater" was rendered by Clark, and "1914" by F. W. Calder. King spoke in his capacity as "Captain of Freshman Football."

The remainder of the evening was spent at various theatres. Upon their return to the Hill early the next morning the Freshmen found that the rule concerning "no stacking" was still in force and that they did not have to make beds as usual.

The committee consisted of Brown, Chairman, Mackay, Miller, Glover, Prescott, Ritch, Dieterlin and McNair.

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NOVEMBER LIT. CRITIQUE.

Continued from page 1.

the staff will do well to remember that there is a strong interest among the Alumni in the prize work, and while we may not read every word, we do like to see that the stuff is up to the old standards.

The fiction of recent years seems to me to be much better than that of fifteen years ago, if we except the work of H. K. Webster, whose writing seems to me now to have been about equal to that of the best of recent years. There has been much more evidence of artistic sense and of study of the way to tell a story than formerly. I do not recall any one of my time or near it who had enough skill to make so vivid an impression in three pages as we receive from Thompson's "Broken String." The story is nothing and one wonders why a young writer chooses the Latin Quarter for his background and indulges in three foreign languages; but what's the harm if he gets away with them?

"The Falling Snow" has three graceful, vivid lines, and that's a fair average; but "Old Hamilton" reminds one again that not every man can be a poet.

Considering the Lit. as a publication for the Alumni, one feels that perhaps it is too much to expect that undergraduates should know how to write for them. The news notes are better than formerly; quite understandable. So far as Lit. publishes news it would seem that the items should be written for Alumni, since the students have Life.

The editorials are not so clear to an Alumnus. They are for the students, one feels. That upon football is addressed to Mr. Alumnus, but he fails to see why a victory over Union counts so much more than the defeats. The next two editorials remind me of the fact that not one student in twenty can talk about college spirit without getting fuddled. The editorial upon the rule against more than one major activity shows the usual naive inability to see a thing as the Faculty sees it. Plant has done much better work and does in this number in his article on early Hamiltonians.

"Alumniana" is the department to which an Alumnus turns for real interest. It seems unfortunate that there cannot be some way invented to collect more news without burdening Dr. Squires. We have had far too many long quotations of late and too little news. A department must be hard up indeed when it prints that 1910 half-century letter.

It is easy to find fault. This Lit. is better than I used to help get out. I wish Lit. were a better Alumni organ. It seems to me the only way this can be brought about would be to combine the energy and the money now going into Lit. and The Record. I am told this combination is impossible, but am unable to understand. Would it be possible to organize some machinery for the regular collection of Alumni news? Or, would it be possible to secure some Alumnus to conduct a complete Alumni department in one corner of Lit., with not only news, but editorial comment, letters from graduates and the like?

J. A. WINANS, '97.

SENIOR TEAM MAKES PROTEST.

At the class meeting held on Saturday in the Chapel, the members of the Senior Class debate team asked as a favor that the class from the five men, select one as alternate. Originally eight men were elected. By the resignation of three the necessity of competition was eliminated, and those remaining did not wish to appear before the Council for the sole purpose of having the Council select an alternate. Nor did the Council care to take the time for such a purpose.

Realizing the distastefulness and the petty ill feelings which arise from selecting by the votes of the members of the team an alternate from their own number, the team requested that the class save them this unpleasant duty. The men on the class team will give up a large part of their Christmas vacation in striving to represent the class as it should be represented. On this account they ought to be supported by the members of the class whose honor they wish to uphold. Therefore the action of the class in entirely disregarding the wishes of the debaters is deemed by those men as showing a singularly poor class spirit as far as the Interclass Debate is concerned.

THE SENIOR TEAM.

NEW BOOK BY PROF. SCOLLARD.

A small volume of poems by Clinton Scollard, in a limited edition, was issued from the press of George William Browning of Clinton on Saturday last. The poems are short, musical, and abounding in lyrical sweetness. The title is "From the Lips of the Sea," and for those who have felt the thrall of the ocean there cannot fail to be an abounding pleasure.

LECTURE ON LATIN COMEDY.

The Latin Club met for the second time last Wednesday evening at the home of Prof. Chase and listened to a very interesting lecture by Dr. Fitch on the development of Latin Comedy, and its debt to the Greeks. Although he spoke briefly on the contributions that Sophocles and Aeschylus made to Latin Comedy by laying the foundations of the Greek Drama, Dr. Fitch paid particular attention to the work of Euripides, saying that he was the first Greek dramatist to represent human beings rather than gods and the first to deal with man's struggle between passion and duty. Dr. Fitch translated several passages from Euripides to show how that dramatist may be called the forerunner of comedy.

The Club will meet again next Wednesday. One of Plautus' plays will be translated by five Juniors, to each of whom a part has been given.

STATISTICS OF THE FRESHMEN.

Martin, '11, has finished testing the physical condition of the Freshmen and has sent the statistics for publication.

Heaviest man: "Queenie" Patton, 203 pounds.

Lightest man: McNair, 111 pounds.

Tallest man: LaForce, 6 feet 2 inches.

Shortest man: Hulbert, 5 feet 4 inches.

Largest lung pressure: Turnbull, 440, a college record.

Smallest lung pressure: Patton, 90.

Largest chest expansion: Patton, 6 inches.

Smallest chest expansion: Keddy, 2 inches.

Oldest man: Williams.

Youngest man: McNair.

LaForce won both the lift, with a mark of 230, and the grip, with 64.

Eight men cannot swim.

SOME 1912 FOOTBALL CAPTAINS.

Syracuse—Probst, tackle.
Princeton—Pendleton, halfback.
Michigan—Thompson, fullback.
Iowa State—Mansen, guard.
Mass. Aggies—Gumson, tackle.
Carlisle—Thorpe, halfback.
Trinity—Collett, halfback.
Brown—Ashbaugh, right end.
University of Detroit—G. Kelly, halfback.
Dartmouth—Bennett, guard.
Wisconsin—Moll, quarterback.
Yale—Spalding, halfback.
West Point—Devore, tackle.
Navy—Rodes, fullback.

LOCAL DEPARTMENT

D. E. STONE, '13, Local Editor.

HILL NOTES.

—The Junior Basketball Team defeated Waterville High School last Thursday evening by the score of 18 to 17.

—Wenigmann, '13, expects to enter in the sprints at the Olympic tryouts to be held at Madison Square Garden, New York, the last week in February.

—The following men are eligible to write for K. P.: Ahlheim, Bagg, Baird, Bates, Bedenkapp, Boone, DuBois, Erskine, Knox, Mangan, Marsh, Peters, Plant, Regin, Pratt, Thomas, Thompson, and Warren.

—The Bowling Alleys have been repaired, the old balls replaned, the old pins replaced by new, and everything is fit. The Alleys will be open every night after 7:30 and afternoons when possible.

—Prof. Patterson of Tufts University, now with the Fiske Teachers' Bureau, gave a short talk before the Seniors on Education last Thursday. During the afternoon Prof. Patterson met the Seniors who are planning to teach.

—Winans, '97, head of the Department of Oratory at Cornell, Wallace, '09, and Allen, '11, visited on the Hill last week.

—Steward Williams of Commons will have charge of the D. U. house after the first of the year.

—Knox, '12, and Blackmar, '13, have returned from Chicago, where they attended the annual convention of Delta Kappa Epsilon.

—Pentagon entertained Square at a theatre and dinner party in Utica last Wednesday evening.

—A delightful Faculty party at which several Trustees were present was given by Mr. C. B. Rogers at his residence last Friday evening. Dr. Stryker, Professor Davenport and Professor Morrill have already entertained, thus restoring a College custom universal years ago.

Announcement was made last week that an endowment fund of $200,000 had been completed for St. Lawrence University. $50,000 was given by the Rockefeller Genera' Education Board and $150,000 was collected by the University.

Two Freshmen at the University of Washington were strapped recently by the Sophomores for disobeying rules governing first year men.

WINTER TRIP NOW ASSURED.

Final Cut of Glee Club Soon—Mandolin Club Already Chosen.

The initial trip of the Musical Clubs for 1912 will take place the week of Washington's birthday and will include concerts at Binghamton on February 21st, Middletown the following night, New Rochelle on the 23rd, and New York City on Saturday the 24th. A gracious grant of one day's cuts from the Faculty has alone made possible this trip. The management is to be congratulated on having obtained concerts at these loyal cities, whose enthusiastic receptions of last year promise highly for the coming season. Owing, it may be, to the fact that a Christmas trip was under consideration the Clubs have already equalled if not surpassed the highwater mark of perfection set by the predecessors of previous years. It would, indeed, be hard to find musical pieces of higher quality than those now in the repertoire of the Mandolin Club. Among these are Sis Hopkins, The Battleship Connecticut, Waltzes from the Count of Luxembourg, the Poet and Peasant, and the Barcarolle, a joint number with the Glee Club. The Glee Club, at first suspected of being the weaker vessel, has been found guilty of a great degree of harmony and truly delightful expression. Further elimination has taken place in the Mandolin Club, while the Glee Club will be cut at an early date. Following is the personnel of the Glee Club: First tenor—Thompson, Ahlheim, Alvord, Peters, Walker and West, '12, Hahn, '13, and Lockwood, '15; second tenor—Dubois and Eells, '12, Thompson and Peck, '13, Brown and Jessup, '14, and Keddy, '15; first base, Knox, Allen and Bagg, '12, Cross, '13, McGibeny and Williamson, '14; second base, Marsh and Parker, '12, Clark, '13, Felt, Callahan and Leavenworth, '14, and Higby, '15. The personnel of the Mandolin Club follows: Guitars—Leader Eells, '12, Blackmar and Porter, '13; first mandolins—Adams, '12, Barber, Gould and True, '13, Flagg and Blood, '14, Mahady, '15; second mandolins—Burns and Leavenworth, '14, Johnson, '15; violins—Heidner, '13, and Eddy, '14.

At a recent meeting of the Trustees of Dartmouth College, it was decided that the growth of the college should not be limited. Plans for a new dormitory and measures to relieve the congestion in recitation and lecture halls were discussed.

EXCHANGE CLIPPINGS.

Branches of the Intercollegiate Socialist Society, which was founded in Columbia three years ago, have been established in seven more colleges: Princeton, Amherst, Wesleyan, Colgate, Ohio State, Oberlin, and the University of Missouri. The colleges represented now number thirty-seven. The third annual convention of the Society will be held in New York on December 28 and 29.

At the University of Kansas those trying out for football must take a written quiz on the first ten rules of the game.

Not yet in long trousers, a 15-year-old boy has ntered the University of Kansas with advanced standing.

Conditional appropriations aggregating $635,000 have been granted to six colleges and universities by the board of trustees of the John D. Rockefeller Fund for Education. Applications from twenty-four institutions were presented. From this list the board selected six.

The Triangular Intercollegiate Debating League, consisting of Columbia Cornell and the University of Pennsylvania, has selected as a subject for its debate this year: "Resolved, that the Sherman anti-trust law be so amended as to subject the trust to a policy of regulation." The debates will be held late in February and the rules governing the debate will be the same as those governing the Colgate-Hamilton-Union League.

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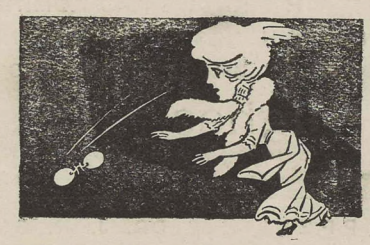

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